



MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

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Julie A. Allen

Executive Director

August 2, 2010

Letter to Election Authorities
2 pages

[Election Authority Name]

[Address 1]

[Address 2]

[City State Zip]

RE: Effective August 28, 2010
Senate Bill 844 provisions

Enclosed is a Fact Sheet summarizing the provisions of Senate Bill 844 recently signed into law by the governor and effective August 28, 2010. We ask you take the time to review and especially note the following:

- **All committees** required by law to file their campaign finance reports with the Commission must do so electronically after January 1, 2011. Refer to page 5 of the *Guide to Ethics Laws 2010* for information on where reports must be filed.
- **Continuing committees** will now be known as political action committees.
- **Political party campaign finance committees** will exist only at the congressional and state levels. All other political party campaign finance committees (including county political party committees) must convert to a political action committee or terminate. We will inform you of the actions taken by the political party committees in your county.
- **Political action committees** have specific provisions regarding from whom they can and cannot receive contributions and to whom they can give contributions.
- **Treasurers and deputy treasurers** are no longer required to reside in the district or county in which a committee sits (must still be a Missouri resident).
- **Deputy treasurers** must have all prior campaign finance reports filed before forming a new committee or serving as a deputy treasurer of a committee.
- **Candidates** will not be able to file for office or take office until their committees or any committee they served as a treasurer or deputy treasurer of have paid any

fees assessed by the Commission. Candidates should attest that, in addition to the current requirement of filing all campaign finance reports from prior elections, they have paid all outstanding fees assessed by the Commission.

- **Disqualified candidates** cannot be selected by a party nominating committee for the same office in the same primary or general election.
- Campaign finance reports filed late with the Commission **will be assessed a fee of \$50.00 per day (up from \$10.00)**. This includes late fees for limited activity reports.

Also enclosed is a sample of the letter sent to all political party committees registered with this office detailing the new requirements. Additionally, at the County Clerks' and Election Authorities' annual conference, detailed information will be presented on SB 844. However, with the effective date of August 28, 2010, you should be aware of the provisions in advance of the conference.

Continue to check our website for updated information about SB844 at www.mec.mo.gov. Should you have any questions, email the MEC at helpdesk@mec.mo.gov or contact our office at 1-800-392-8660.